
(G.S. 143B, Article 10, Part 2F), and any other information pertinent to the Program that may be available to the public.

- (c) Once the Economic Development Representative has gained sufficient information regarding the Project, he or she will also discuss the nature and status of the Project with the Commerce Finance Center and/or the Secretary of Commerce to assess the availability of the limited number of Grants and the limited amount of funds for the year in question. Based on these discussions, the Economic Development Representative will advise the potential Applicant on the prospects for a Grant and funds being available for the particular Project.
- (d) Whenever working with a potential Applicant to evaluate a project and its possible eligibility or ineligibility for a Grant, the Economic Development Representative will inform the potential Applicant that neither the representative nor the Secretary of Commerce, nor any individual member of the Committee, has the authority to bind the Committee or approve a Grant. Notwithstanding an Economic Development Representative's assessment of the prospects for Grants and funds being available for a particular Project, an Applicant is free to submit an Application to the Committee, which is the only body with authority to make decisions regarding the award of Grants.

6.3 Submission of Applications and Application Fees

- (a) Applications for Grants will be submitted to the Department of Commerce's Commerce Finance Center, which will screen them for completeness and confirm that, on the face of the Application, the Project does not appear ineligible for a Grant. The Commerce Finance Center will request additional information from Applicants, as needed, to ensure that Applications are complete and contain all information necessary for the Committee's review.
- (b) Each Application submitted to the Committee must be accompanied at the time of filing by payment of a fee of five thousand dollars (\$5,000). G.S. §143B-437.55(b). Payment will be made to the Commerce Finance Center. The Commerce Finance Center shall allocate the Application fee in a manner determined by agreement of the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Revenue, and the Director of the Office of State Budget and Management. G.S. §143B-437.55(b).
- (c) Where an Application is not sufficiently complete to enable the Commerce Finance Center to process it, or where it appears on the face of the Application that the Project would not be eligible, the Application fee will be returned or refunded along with the Application. Fees for Applications